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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Estonian Aviation Developments: Tallinn GVF Detachment/
Expanded Parachute Training/Parnu Civilian Airport
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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• "The following information dates through late [redacted]"

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Tallinn GVF Detachment

- "A unit called The Tallinn GVF Detachment (Tallinski Otriad GVF / Grazhdanskogo Vozdushnogo Flota - civilian aviation) is attached to the Tallinn airport for civilian aviation. The chief of the unit is Colonel of Aviation ET [redacted] Archenko. The chief of the political department is Captain of Civilian Aviation G Riazartshev."

- "The Tallinn GVF Detachment has seven planes of the type Il-12. They serve the lines Tallinn-Leningrad, Tallinn-Moscow and Tallinn-Parnu-Riga."

- "The Tallinn GVF Detachment is subordinated to the Northern Territorial Administration of Civilian Aviation, which is situated in Leningrad. If a mobilization were proclaimed the Tallinn GVF Detachment would become part of the Leningrad air transport division of GVF (Leningradskaja Transportnaja Aviationssnaia Divizia GVF). The staff of this air division exists even in peace time at the headquarters of the Northern Territorial Administration of Civilian Aviation in Leningrad."

- "While on duty, civilian aviation flight personnel are considered equal to persons on active military service and are subject to responsibility in accordance with military law."

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[redacted] a recruiting commission was working at the Tallinn GVF Detachment. It recruited pupils for the Leningrad Civilian Aviation Flight School (Leningradskoie Liotnoie Uchilishche GVF) and the Leningrad Civilian Aviation Aviatechnical School (Leningradskoie Aviotehnicheskoie Uchilishche GVF). Only those men could apply who had finished secondary school, were aged between 17 and 25, were physically suitable for service in aviation, had successfully gone through courses of some aviation specialty at the DOSAAF organization and were members or candidates to membership, of the Komsomol. Both the above Leningrad schools are of a semi-military type. The pupils live in barrack-hostels, wear the uniform of civilian aviation and get full board and a salary.

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Parachute Training

7. [redacted] more attention than usual was paid to parachute sport at the DOSAAF aeroclubs of the Estonian SSR. On the insistence of the deputy chief of the republican DOSAAF aeroclub, Captain N. Tröstin (who is stationed in Tallinn), groups of 'parachute packers' were organized at all aeroclubs of the Estonian SSR. At the Tallinn Aeroclub five such 'study groups of parachute packers' are working at present. [redacted]. There are 12 persons in each group. Similar groups also function at the aeroclubs in Tartu, Narva, Parnu, Valga and Kohtla-Jarve.

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Parnu Airport

8. [redacted] work began on the construction of a civilian airport in Parnu. It is located close to the northwestern suburbs of the town. [redacted] two runways for heavy planes were ready. They have a length of 2000 metres and a width of 60 metres."

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